

8th Symposium of the International Society for the History of Radiology

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Prof. Dr. Jacques Pringot

Jacques PRINGOT qualified in medicine from the Catholic University of Leuven and from the Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen - Nurnberg, trained in internal medicine and later in radiology.

He was full professor of radiology at the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL) and as a radiologist head of the department of medical imaging of the University Hospital Saint-Luc (Brussels). He lectured the radiodiagnostics of abdominal pathologies and of the digestive tract.

As professor emeritus of the UCL he became consulting radiologist at the Europa Hospital - campus St-Elisabeth (Brussels).

From 1976 up to 2015 he was the editor-in-chief of the “Journal belge de Radiologie - Belgisch Tijdschrift voor Radiologie” and editor-in-chief emeritus of the Journal of the Belgian Society of Radiology.

He is founder and honorary member of the European Society of Gastro-intestinal and Abdominal Radiology and honorary member of the Belgian Royal Society of Radiology (SRBR-KBVR).

Presents:

A short History of the Belgian Society of Radiology and the Journal

Founded in 1906 by a handful of enthusiastic surgeons and physicians, some of them militarists, the Belgian Society of Radiology, sixth national Society world-wide, has grown over more than hundred years into the vibrant society it is today.

A year later in 1907 the “Journal belge de Radiologie” run by an editorial board began to publish the acts of the Society. This initiated a long period of publishing first in French, subsequently in both national languages and English and from 1995 onwards exclusively in English.

Due to the remarkable contribution of its members and the industry (Gevaert and Co & de Man, Antwerp) mastering without delay the scientific and technological innovations and their clinical expertise the Society has followed successive historical steps in its development. With are mainly: before WWI plain X-rays & linear tomography the military radiologists taking the leading role, between WWI and WWII.

Radiology becomes a new discipline in medical practice and teaching is organized by the Universities.

After WWII the Society consolidated its influence not only nationally but also internationally mainly through the affiliation with the European Society of Radiology and organized the Congress of the International Society of Radiology in Brussels in 1981.

From WWII to the Sixties the golden age of conventional radiology consequent to TV-fluoroscopy, complex tomography and catheter-angiography induced the evolution toward sub-specialization in radiology led by neurologic and gastrointestinal radiologists.

From the seventies to today the emergence and progresses of cross-sectional imaging, successively real-time echography, computer tomography and magnetic resonance imaging produced the profound restructuring of the discipline.

These historical developments were largely reported in the Journal which after WWII adopted the International Vancouver's guidelines of editing, acronymized its name as JBR-BTR and was distributed to the members of the Society and also to international subscribers and exchanged with scientific institutions and medical libraries namely the prestigious Country Medical Library of Harvard Medical School.

In 2015 a reconciliation of the Royal Belgian Society of Radiology (RBSR) with the more professionally oriented organization the National Union of Radiologists, gives way to the new Belgian Society of Radiology cumulating scientific and professional interests. The JBR-BTR mutated in a free access exclusively on-line journal the JBSR with the objective to boost the diffusion.

Today the BSR is facing with optimism new challenges namely artificial intelligence (AI) and 3D-printing, AI having been addressed at a very recent meeting in Brussel.